

**METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR  
PHYSICALLY PATTERNING NONOPERATIONAL  
STRUCTURES OF AN OPTICAL DISC**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Methods and apparatus for using physical synchronization markers during optical disc data acquisition are provided. In accordance with this invention, physical synchronization markers on optical discs and/or disc covers can be used to determine absolute and/or relative positions on the disc or cover and control data acquisition. A method for acquiring data includes detecting at least one physical synchronization marker and reading data in response to detecting the marker.

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